



**Rebuild and Transform Britain**  
new opportunities outside the EU.

# TRADE UNIONISTS AGAINST THE EU

## Invoke Article 50 Now.

On June 23rd, Britain voted decisively to leave the EU. Millions of workers in the trade union and labour movement made this happen. Therefore workers must be involved in the triggering of Article 50 needed to leave the EU and they must have a voice in the formal EU exit negotiations. If they don't these negotiations will be unrepresentative of the will of the people who voted and negotiators will reflect only big business interests again.

## EU disaster zone.

The EU is the architect of the low pay economy. It has low growth, low productivity and high unemployment and there's nothing individual governments can do to stop it. Even the Tory Party is less powerful than that of the big business lobby that runs the EU on behalf of the banks and the major corporations who established the EU in the first place.

## A seat round the table for workers and unions.

At the moment, City grandees and their political wing, the Tory Party, are trying to undermine the referendum decision and ensure workers'

voices are absent from the negotiations. They are aided and abetted by a compliant media largely infatuated by the EU and in constant fear of a revitalised Labour Party supporting the referendum decision.

This should be no surprise, as the EU and its corporate rulers have a long history of undermining democratic referendums, overruling sovereign governments and promoting deindustrialisation, privatisation and public spending cuts. We need to control the levers of economic power and this can only be done through national democracy.

## Delaying Brexit keeps the bankers and global forces of austerity in power.

Therefore we need to leave the EU as soon as possible.

## No to EU Single Market.

No one should be deluded that staying in the Single Market a moment longer is good for us. Unlike any other market, the single market is unique in that it has neo-liberalism embodied in its very constitution with its cherished four freedoms: the freedoms of movement of capital, goods, services and workers. This is the neoliberal reality of the EU: it has built an anti-democratic economic and political system that pushes people around a continent at the command of multi-nationals and high finance.

## Forced movement of labour.

Treating workers as if they were just a resource for international capital to shift around in order to keep wage levels down has accompanied mass EU unemployment. The free movement of people leads to the drainage of poorer countries' greatest asset - their people. If the affluent countries of the EU can plunder the populations of the poorer states in the name of freedom, then these countries will never emerge from their nightmare of debt and dependency. That is the point of EU corporate policy, the provision of cheap non-unionised labour.

## Boost trade with the world.

Britain's trade deficit with the EU is some £69 billion a year while our trade surplus with the rest of the world is around £27 billion. More countries than ever are now keen to build new links and trade with us. The EU needs us more than we need it and we are in a strong bargaining position to leave on our terms and invest as we see fit in our own economy. The years of net payments into the EU by Britain mean its institutions are stacked with billions of pounds worth of assets paid for by us.

## The spirit of 45.

The mood in Britain is to end austerity and rebuild and transform our politics and economy with the engagement and energy of all of our people. More than even the spirit of 45 is needed now and unions are key providing the vital link between production and politics.

Our independence from the EU means making our own commitments to full employment, industrial renewal, nationalisation

of rail and utilities, a resurgence of public services and a communal ethic, an end to austerity, protection of our agriculture and fishing industries, cheaper energy and home rents, rebuilding social housing, investment in skills, science R&D, publicly accountable schools, free higher education and the management of the NHS to be really free from market forces. Inside the EU this agenda is impossible to deliver.

Our renewed confidence means we can create an economic plan to escape the politics of debt forced upon nations by the banks as a means of controlling their governments. It means an end to EU procurement rules that restrict and prohibit state investment, it means protection of our steel, manufacturing and high tech industries and it means serious job creation. It means an end to the misery of enforced migration of labour. It means control of the value of our currency and our own central bank to invest in the real economy.

## People not markets.

Forget the markets wanting certainty, the people want certainty to bring up their families securely knowing the next generation will have better chances than the last and be happier and more fulfilled. The 'market' will do whatever it wants to secure profits, including trying to invalidate the referendum.

Our most important organisations - the trade unions, which are truly representative of the world of work, should be at the forefront of determining the shape of an independent Britain confident in a future in which it will put people, not profit, first. It shouldn't be forgotten that the EU has been one of the fiercest opponents of trade unions and collective bargaining rights.



  
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Trade Unionists Against the EU

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